GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2602
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2016
Use of IT in Fishing Sector
Premachandran Shri N.K.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to modernize the fishing sector by utilizing Information Technology (IT) and if so, the detail thereof;

(b) whether new IT programmes have been used in the fishing sector during the last two years and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the available communication and information technology facilities in the fishing sector and the steps taken by the Government to update them; and

(d) whether the Government proposes to give subsidy/financial assistance to the fisher folk for making use of communication and information technology and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI MOHANBHAI KUNDARIYA)
(a) to (c) : Yes, Madam. The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has identified three areas for use of Information Technology (IT) in fisheries namely (i) dissemination of information to marine fishers on Potential Fishing Zone (PFZ), (ii) weather assessment, forecasting & forewarning and (iii) real time monitoring and tracking of fishing vessels. Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) presently provides the "Potential Fishing Zone (PFZ) Advisories" using satellite data and Geographic Information System (GIS). The INCOIS has reported that currently about 2,50,000 fishermen in the country are using this information. Presently, the Potential Fishing Zone (PFZ) advisories are disseminated through Electronic Display Boards installed at fishing harbours/fish landing centers/ fishing hamlets/fishermen cooperative societies, local cable TV networks, radio, INCOIS web site, email, Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS), mobile applications viz. Fisher Friend Mobile Application (FFMA) etc. Besides, the dissemination of fishery related information is also being done through web based media networks like mKRISHI, NeGPA and other web portals including social media.

(d) : The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post Harvest Operations provides financial assistance for supply of safety kit consisting of GPS, Communication equipment, echo-sounder and search and rescue beacon to fishermen.
*****